Atty Dkt No. LEAR 0925 PUS

S/N: 10/085,370 Reply to Office Action of October 6, 2004

## **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A method of producing composite vehicle door panels comprising:

manufacturing a skin in a vacuum-forming mold;

transferring the skin to a RIM mold;

applying natural fibers and an isocyanate and resin mixture onto the skin;

polymerizing the isocyanate and resin mixture, the natural fibers, and the skin into a composite vehicle door panel.

- 2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the natural fibers are hemp, kenaf, sisal, flax, or jute.
- 3. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of trimming the skin before natural fibers are placed on the skin.
- 4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of trimming the skin after the isocyanate and resin mixture, natural fibers, and the skin have polymerized.
- 5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the natural fibers are provided as rovings.
- 6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the natural fibers are provided as a mat.

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- 7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the natural fibers and isocyanate and resin mixture are applied to the skin simultaneously.
- 8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the natural fibers are applied to the skin first and the isocyanate and resin mixture are applied onto the natural fibers.
- 9. (Currently Amended) A method of producing composite vehicle door panels comprising:

forming a skin;

transferring the skin to a RIM mold;

applying natural [[fiber]] <u>fibers</u> and an isocyanate and resin mixture onto the skin;

polymerizing the isocyanate and resin mixture in the presence of the natural [[fiber]] <u>fibers</u> and the skin to form a composite vehicle door panel.

- 10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the natural fibers are hemp, kenaf, sisal, flax, or jute.
- 11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of trimming the skin before natural fibers are placed on the skin.
- 12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of trimming the skin after the isocyanate and resin mixture have polymerized.
- 13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the natural fibers are provided as rovings.
- 14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the natural fibers are provided as a mat.

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- 15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the natural fibers and isocyanate and resin mixture are applied to the skin simultaneously.
- 16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the natural fibers are applied to the skin first and the isocyanate and resin mixture are applied onto the natural fibers.
  - 17. (Previously Presented) A composite vehicle door panel comprising:
  - a formed skin;
  - a plurality of natural fibers; and
- a polymeric material comprising the reaction product of isocyanate and a resinous mixture, the polymeric material joining the skin with the fibers.
- 18. (Previously Presented) The panel of claim 17 wherein the natural fibers are hemp, kenaf, sisal, flax, or jute.
- 19. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the RIM mold is heated to 140 to 180°F after the skin has been transferred to the RIM mold.
- 20. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the isocyanate comprises polymeric isocyanate having 30 to 34% free NCO.